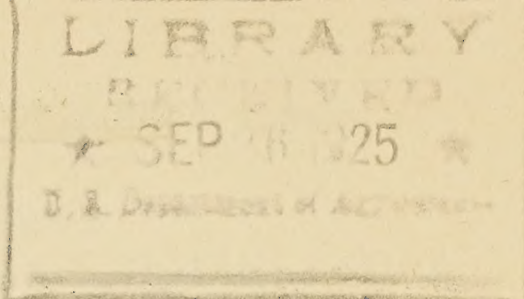


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service

Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

CULLING INCREASES POULTRY PROFITS

A booth exhibit showing in dollars and cents the benefits derived from culling; how to determine poor and good layers.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 13'-3" front, 8'-2"
Wall space - - - - - None. (deep.
Shipping weight - - - - - 805 lbs.
Electrical requirements - None.

CULLING INCREASES POULTRY PROFITS

How It Looks

This exhibit is intended to show the difference in financial returns between culled and unculted flocks and the characteristics of good and poor laying hens. On the left section is painted a picture of a good layer standing beside a scorecard form upon which has been recorded a physical description of her good points. On the right section is seen a poor layer and her filled-in score card. A comparison of the two score-cards shows why there is a decided difference in the number of eggs laid by the two types of hens.

In the center section there are seen two wire-mesh fronts of chicken yards. In these yards are painted two flocks which laid the same number of eggs in a year. On a table below this section are imitation bags of feed. It is shown that one flock cost considerably more to feed than the other one. This is given on the cards attached to the bags of feed.

The booth is 13'-3" across the front and 8'-2" deep.

What It Tells

In this exhibit the Department calls attention to culling as a means of increasing egg production. One lot of 22 hens is shown, which was not culled, and which in one year ate 1659 pounds of feed costing \$37.50; the 22 hens laid 175 dozen eggs. Contrasted with this lot is one of 14 hens which were culled, and which laid the same number of eggs, but ate only 1050 pounds of feed at a cost of \$23.63. The lot of 22 hens that was not culled ate more than 50 per cent more feed than the lot that was culled and produced no more eggs. The extra cost of feed, however, is but one of the larger costs. Others are the extra labor, extra housing room, and extra capital invested.

To enable the poultryman to cull his hens properly, the exhibit gives the points to be looked

for when determining a poor layer, or a good layer. These outlines are as follows:

How to determine a poor layer:

Comb--shrunken, dull and whitish scales.
Eye --sunken, dull and listless.
Beak--deep yellow(on yellow-shanked breeds).
Shank--deep yellow(on yellow-shanked breeds).
Pelvic bones--Thick, rigid, close together.
Abdomen--rather hard and shallow from pelvic bones to end of keel.
Vent--small, puckered, dry.
A poor producer molts early, (in July and August).

How to determine a good layer.

Comb--full, bright, red, waxy.
Eye--bright, prominent, alert.
Beak--pale or white (on yellow-shanked breeds).
Shank - Pale or white (on yellow-shanked breeds)
Pelvic bones - Thin, flexible, wide (breeds) apart.
Abdomen--flexible and deep, as measured from end of keel to pelvic bones.
Vent -- large, expanded, moist.
A good producer molts late, (in September and October)

Where to Get Information

The following publications may be obtained free of charge from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Farmers' Bulletin 1112 - Culling for Eggs and Market
Farmers' Bulletin 1377 - Marketing Poultry

